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NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE QUALITY INSTITUTE



**A BI-WEEKLY LOOK AT THE BUSINESS & POLITICS OF
HEALTH CARE IN NEW JERSEY**

What's Included In This Edition:

Schwimmer Script - Five Years After COVID: What We Learned and What We Didn't

Take Five Interview - Ruth A. Wittmann-Price, PhD, TESU

Upcoming Events - New Jersey Worker Benefits and Protections Information Session
- 3/31, Maternity Action Plan Event - 4/2

Mayors Wellness Campaign - County Town Halls

Welcome, New Member - Oscar Health



Schwimmer Script

Linda Schwimmer, JD
President & CEO, 

Five Years After COVID: What We Learned and What We Didn't

In early March five years ago, I sat in the ICU waiting room of a Bergen County hospital where my father-in-law was being discharged after a fall. The hospital needed the bed, and he could safely return home.

It was the earliest days of COVID in New Jersey, and I recall the surge of fear that the virus was coming — and fast. My thought: I need to get my in-laws, and myself, out of here as quickly as possible. Ten days later we were in shut down. Those days were fraught with great anxiety and little information.

At the Quality Institute, like many organizations, we wanted to help however we could. We quickly recognized the role we could play bringing people together — virtually — to share information as we learned more about the pandemic every day. We worked with the New Jersey Department of Health and many others on developing guidance for hospitals on maternity protocols. We reached out to our members in different sectors of health care, including pharmaceutical companies and medical practices, plans and community groups, as well as state officials and local public health officers. We captured observations from the front lines. We saw people roll up their sleeves and work together with unprecedented collaboration.

While still living through the pandemic, we worked with [BioNJ](#) to pull together a workgroup, and drawing from their input and observations, we created [Emerging From COVID-19: An Action Plan for a Healthier State...](#)

[Read Full Story](#)

TAKE FIVE INTERVIEW

Ruth A. Wittmann-Price, PhD,
*Dean of the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing and
Health Professions, Thomas Edison State University*



Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

[Thomas Edison State University](#) (TESU) is a member of the [Quality Institute's Education Council](#).

Interview Sneak Peek: *What is the Wittmann-Price Theory of Emancipated Decision-making (EDM), and how has it been used to improve women's health care?*

I've had many years of clinical practice in women's health, and this theory is derived from those experiences and my dissertation about how women make health care decisions for themselves and their families. It's a nursing model that considers gender differences in the health care environment. I studied the variables influencing women's choices regarding what suits them and their families. The theory recognizes oppressive elements inherent in the health care system and that women need stronger voices because of the hierarchical and patriarchal aspects of that system. Ultimately a shared decision-making model is needed between health care providers, women, and their families.

[Read Full Interview](#)



UPCOMING VIRTUAL EVENTS

[New Jersey Worker Benefits & Protections Information Session](#)

Join the [Essential Jobs Essential Care Coalition](#) and the [New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development](#) for an informative session on the state's worker

benefits and protections, including the new Domestic Workers' Bill of Rights. Learn about minimum wage, overtime, paid leave, and additional NJDOL programs and resources.

This session will be helpful for employers to understand their obligations and for employees to know their work rights.

Register Now for 3/31 Event



Monday, March 31

12:00PM – 1:00PM

Informative Session On:

- State's worker benefits & protections
- **NEW** Domestic Workers' Bill of Rights.
- Minimum wage
- Overtime
- Paid leave, &
- Additional NJDOL programs & resources.

Ideal Participants:

- **Employers** to understand their obligations & available NJDOL resources
- **Employees** to know their work rights

Live Webinar



Tyla Minniear,
*COO, New Jersey Health
Care
Quality Institute*



Robert Asaro-Angelo,
*Commissioner,
NJ Department of Labor &
Workforce Development
(NJDOL)*



Holly Low
*Director of Strategic
Outreach and
Partnerships,
NJDOL*



Rebecca Glinn
*Policy Manager,
NJDOL, Office of
Strategic Outreach &
Partnerships*

MATERNITY ACTION PLAN

Virtual **Work** Session

PREGNANCY UNDER PRESSURE:
A **COORDINATED RESPONSE TO PREECLAMPSIA**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2
12 to 2 p.m.



#MAP4NJ

Join us for a **Maternity Action Plan (MAP)** virtual work session, where we will raise awareness about preeclampsia and highlight ongoing efforts to address this critical issue. Together, we will explore ways to address this complication of

pregnancy through hospital, provider, and community-based strategies.

Event Speakers:

- **Robyn D’Oria** - Chair of the Board of Directors at [Preeclampsia Foundation](#)
- **Christine Ivery** - Program Officer at [New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute](#)
- **Traushan Powell** - Patient Advisory Council Member at [Preeclampsia Foundation](#) and [MoMMAs Voices](#)
- **Natasha Dravid** - Chief Strategy Officer at [Camden Coalition](#)

Register for 4/2 MAP Event



Mayors Wellness Campaign County Town Halls

The [Mayors Wellness Campaign](#) will hold our annual Town Halls in every New Jersey county. These meetings present a valuable opportunity for community members to engage directly with MWC staff and share their perspectives on local needs. Additionally, they allow community leaders to connect with neighbors and explore potential collaborations. Mayors, public health officials and MWC chairs are invited to join the discussion.

Register Now

NEW MEMBER

oscar

WELCOME

[Oscar Health](#) is a leading health care technology company. Through +Oscar, they provide technology solutions that power the health care industry, serving approximately 1.8 million individuals, families, and small businesses under the Affordable Care Act.



For information on how to join, please contact Virginia Tesser at vtesser@njhcqi.org.

To learn more about our current initiatives, please visit our website at www.njhcqi.org.

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